

Amendments to Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body, said method comprising:

making an automotive vehicle body structure comprising external door panels, a hood panel, fender panels, a trunk-lid panel, and a roof panel where visible surfaces of said body structure to be colored for consumer acceptance are formed of aluminum or aluminum alloys;
anodizing the visible surfaces of said body structure in an acid solution; and
coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure in a process selected from the group of processes consisting of adsorptive coloring, electrolytic coloring, and interference coloring.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body as recited in claim 1, said method further comprising dipping the colored vehicle body structure in a solution of fluoride or silica compounds in the presence of nickel salts to cold seal the colored surfaces of said body or parts.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body as recited in claim 2, said method further comprising immersing said colored and cold sealed vehicle body structure in deionized water at a temperature of about 90°C to about 100°C to hot seal the surfaces of said body or parts.

4.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body, said method comprising:

making an automotive vehicle body structure comprising external door panels, hood panel, fender panels, trunk-lid panel, and roof panel where visible surfaces of said body structure to be colored for consumer acceptance are formed of aluminum or aluminum alloys;
cleaning, if necessary, said body structure to remove natural oxide and other materials inhibitive of the following anodizing step; and

anodizing the visible surfaces of said body structure in an acid solution to form clear porous oxide surfaces about 10 to 25 μm in thickness on surfaces of said body structure.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body as recited in claim 7 comprising coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure ~~or component parts~~ by electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said oxide surfaces.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 8 comprising coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure by dipping said body structure in an acidic aqueous bath of one or more inorganic salts of metals and electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said oxide surfaces from said bath.

10. (original) A method as recited in claim 9 in which said inorganic salts are of one or more metals selected from the group consisting of cobalt, copper, nickel and tin.